

1752

PATENT
0649-0789P

RECEIVED
AUG 13 2003
GROUP 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yasuhiro YOSHIOKA Conf.: 3458
Application No.: 09/899,261 Group: 1752
Filed: July 6, 2001 Examiner: Thorl Chea
For: PHOTOTHERMOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

LETTER SUBMITTING A SIGNED DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 8, 2003

Sir:

Further to Applicants' Amendment and Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed July 11, 2003, the attached signed Rule 132 Declaration by Mr. Yasuhiro Yoshioka is respectfully submitted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to take into consideration the attached Rule 132 Declaration in combination with the July 11, 2003 Amendment in determining the patentability of the present invention.

The enclosed Declaration is referred to on page 11, lines 3-4 of the July 11, 2003 Amendment.

Mr. Yoshioka has found that the present photothermographic material made from the combination of phthalazine and phthalic acid has an unexpectedly superior reduction in white spots when compared to the photothermographic material of Example 1 of Moon (US 5,989,796) which incorporates the combination of succinimide and phthalimide.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this

Application No. 09/899,261

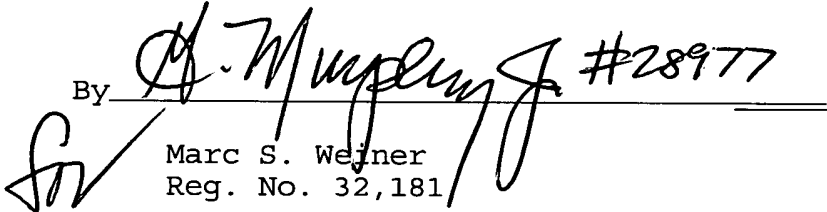
application, he is requested to contact the Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D. (#43,575) at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Marc S. Weiner
Reg. No. 32,181

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000


MSW/GMD/gh

Enclosed: Rule 132 Declaration